



2 News Weather Airmen
host annual bilateral picnic
4 Feature An award-
winning combination
8 Sports YHS Panthers
take fourth in DoDDS soccer

Vol. 46, No. 19 • 374th Airlift Wing • Yokota Air Base, Japan • Friday, May 27, 2005

Base bids farewell to Samurai 1

Wing commander reflects on challenges, accomplishments through 2-year tenure

By Capt. David Westover
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Samurai and Kensei Warriors will say farewell to Col. Mark Schissler, 374th Airlift Wing commander, and his wife, Marcia, during a change of command ceremony slated for Wednesday at 9 a.m. at Hangar 15.

"It's been an unbelievable adventure for Marcia and me," said Colonel Schissler. "There have been lots of challenges, but we leave satisfied with our ability to lead and to witness the remarkable mission success of both the Samurai and Kensei Warriors."

The colonel took command of the 374th AW on July 9, 2003. He led Team Yokota to many successes to include supporting Operation Unified Assistance, the massive airlift operation in the wake of the devastating Dec. 26, 2004 earthquake and tsunamis in Southern Asia.

The tsunami relief effort was one the highlights of his tenure

here, the colonel said. "Anytime you get the chance to deploy with your Airmen and support a contingency operation, it is truly a special occasion," he said.

During his command the wing supported multiple AEF rotations, trained the Japan Air Self Defense Force prior to their unprecedented deployment to Iraq and earned the best Unit Compliance Inspection in PACAF history.

"I wanted to have one of the best wings in the command," said the colonel. "A wing that drew respect from the other wing commanders in PACAF and I can honestly say I believe we achieved that."

The colonel also pointed out the opportunity of sharing the Japanese culture with his family as another highlight of his assignment here at Yokota.

"My wife and children also deeply enjoyed the culture and made many Japanese friends along the way," he said. "We were so fortunate to travel throughout many parts of this

fascinating country."

"But probably our most memorable experience was at (Former Fussa City) Mayor Ishikawa's house, where they served us a bowl of live fish to go with our sake," the colonel said with a chuckle. "When I first arrived 23 months ago, I didn't understand any of the Japanese language or the culture, but we've come to truly appreciate this beautiful country and the wonderful Japanese people."

"I'm going to miss leading both the Samurai and Kensei Warriors," said Colonel Schissler. "I'm very proud of the way the wing and the tenant units work so closely together here – it's a remarkable team here at Yokota."

When asked what areas still need improvement, the colonel explained that his number one goal this year was to reduce the number of assaults.

"I've seen improvements in this area so far this year, but we need continue to do what's necessary to ensure that our Airmen and



photo by Masao Abe

Col. Mark Schissler, 374th Airlift Wing commander, accepts a letter of appreciation from Gen. Tadashi Yoshida, Japan Air Self-Defense Force chief of staff, May 19 at the Air Staff Office, Ichigaya, Tokyo. The letter recognized his professional and personal contributions to U.S. and Japan relations.

their families are safe," he added. "Additionally, I've asked the commanders and senior NCOs to come up with some new offerings and activities for our single Airmen stationed here."

Colonel Schissler also made community relations a top priority during his tenure. "Although it kept me very busy, I got to know the leaders of the surrounding communities and built trust with each of them," he said.

"I thought it was a major part of my responsibility as the wing commander – I never worked community relations like I did here," he added. "And I will miss that part of my job very much."

"It's been an incredible honor to command at the wing level," Col Schissler said. "I'm also honored to go back to the Joint Staff in Washington. I hope to do well there and graduate...and hopefully, I'll get the chance to command again."

101 Critical Days of Summer off, running

By Master Sgt. Garius Neal
374th Airlift Wing Safety Office

Memorial Day weekend traditionally marks the beginning of summer. The weather is getting warmer, children are close to summer vacation, and people focus more on outdoor activities.

However, Memorial Day weekend means something else also. It kicks off the Air Force's 101 Critical Days of Summer which runs through Labor Day weekend.

"The summer is the most critical time of the year," said Captain Ian Tate, 374th Airlift Wing Safety Office. "It's when we see the highest amount of injuries and fatalities from preventable mishaps to our number one fighting resource, our people."

The Air Force lost 32 airmen last year to preventable mishaps during the 101 Critical Days. PACAF lost three members last summer, including one from Yokota who was killed the first

week of June in a motorcycle mishap.

While the Air Force has tremendously reduced the mishap rate over the last few years, Capt. Tate said, "We need to learn from the past and apply appropriate risk management and accountability to help one another."

During summer months, many airmen plan vacations that will expose them to long-distance driving. Others will take advantage of nice weather and make plans to go hiking, swimming, or fishing. Motorcyclists will be eager to hit the open paved roads. According to the Air Force Safety Center, almost 90 percent of the Air Force's fatal accidents occur off-duty and the overwhelming majority involves private motor vehicles.

"Everyone needs to make sure they assess the risks of each situation, consider the options and then take the appropriate action," said Capt. Tate. "Airmen must step up and be good wingmen. Take care of each another; step in when your wingman needs help."



By Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright
U.S. Forces-Japan and Fifth Air Force commander

On the evening of Friday, 27 May, the 101 Critical Days of Summer Campaign officially begins and continues through Labor Day. This period of the year statistically accounts for the most off-duty motor vehicle (PMV) and sports and recreation (S&R) deaths to our Airmen; 27 of 32 total fatalities during the 2004 campaign. One death that hit close to home during last year's campaign was a young Yokota Airman who

lost his life in a tragic motorcycle accident.

With so many of our young Airmen making the ultimate sacrifice supporting the Global War on Terrorism, the loss of even one Airman in a motor vehicle accident or recreational activity is senseless. Applying effective on-duty risk management principles in our off-duty lives will mitigate the associated risks we encounter. Simply stated, we must remember to A-C-T before setting off on adventures: *Assess the Risks, Consider the Options, and Take Action.*

My charge to you in this year's campaign is ZERO mishaps. By living and breathing today no matter what your age, you statistically have proven that a zero mishap goal is possible. Let's make it through this campaign season without the tragic loss of any of our 5 AF family members. Look out for your wingman and successfully plan for risks. With these simple concepts we can successfully achieve our goal – ZERO MISHAPS!

Traffic changes, challenges drivers

By 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Everybody on Yokota is going to have to figure out some different routes of getting around parts of the base.

On June 6 the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron will begin installing storm drainage for the gym and they will be updating the vehicle defense mechanism at the east gate.

The work at the east gate will last from June 6 to 19 and is the last gate to be updated with updated vehicle defense mechanisms.

"People will have to be careful coming through the East Gate," said Mr. Steve Ozoa, traffic engineer from the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron. "The road is very narrow and will be only one lane for each direction."

The other construction project starting on the same date will be the installation of storm drainage for the gym, which will close off a portion of Tunner Street.

There will be signs up at both ends of Tunner Street to advise people of detours.

The installation should take about a month and is scheduled to end on July 5.

"There shouldn't be too many people affected by the street closure," said Mr. Ozoa. "Essentially traffic will be re-directed through the gym parking lot."

The main point the civil engineer squadron is stressing is patience on the part of everyone at Yokota.

"These projects will be an on-going process," said Mr. Ozoa. "People have to remember a lot of the infrastructure facilities are very old and have to be updated."



photo by 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh

Cultural outreach

The New Zealand Maori culture group Nga Hau E Wha, or The Four Winds, performs a traditional action song called wairua. The song name means spirituality. The Maori are the indigenous people of New Zealand. Their performance was one of several at the annual Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month culture show at the Taiyo Recreation Center Saturday. The show also featured a food tasting banquet with nearly one dozen ethnic dishes.

NCOA, ALS grads garner recognition

The following technical sergeants of Team Yokota graduated from the Erwin Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Kadena Air Base, Japan May 18:

Brady, Mitchell from the 374th Communication Squadron; **Cooks, Duane** from 374th Maintenance Operations Squadron; **Ferry, Robert** from the 730th Air Mobility Squadron; **Grindstaff, Donald** from the 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; **Guzman, Victor** from 374th Security Forces Squadron; **Hornberger, Mark** from the 374th Aerospace Medical Squadron; **Kimmon, Keith** from the 374th Dental Squadron; **Marcella, William** from Air Force News; **Nelson, Christopher** from the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Smith, Steve** from the 374th MOS; **Taylor, Donnell** from the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Vazquez, Keri** from the 374th Mission Support Squadron; **Warner,**

Calvin from the 36th Airlift Squadron; and **Warren, Dewayne** from the 36th AS.

Sergeants Grindstaff and Marcella were both selected as distinguished graduates.

The following senior airmen graduated from Airman Leadership School here:

Batson, Brian from the 374th Maintenance Squadron; **Baybayan, Tanya** from the 374th Medical Operations Squadron; **Chapman, Jesse** from the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Collins, Jason** from the 374th CES; **Cruz, Dwight** from the 730th Air Mobility Squadron; **Duncan IV, Bradford** from the 374th MXS; **Hough, Amber** from the 374th Airlift Wing; **Hurry, Ingrid** from the 374th Dental Squadron; **Johnson, Jamal** from the 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Mabee, Alan** from the 374th Operations Support Squadron; **Mattice, Christopher** from the 374th MXS; **Mayfield, Kristine**

from the 374th MDOS; **Mesa, Luis** from Operating Location C with the 374th Communications Squadron; **Meyerholt, Charles** from OL-C with the 374th CS; **Newell, Jason** from the 730th AMS; **Parker, Preston** from the 374th MXS; **Poole, Steven** from the 374th MXS; **Rayford, Terrence** from the 374th MDOS; **Rey, Robert** from the 374th CS; **Richardson, Jesse** from the 36th Airlift Squadron; **Sider, David** from the 374th CS; **Sloan-Anzar, Ashley** from the 730th AMS; **Stupperich, Jeremy** from the 374th AW; **Tubbs, Danesha** from the 374th Services Division; and **Uhl, Joshua** from the 20th Operational Weather Squadron.

Airmen Cruz and Tubbs were both designated as distinguished graduates. Airman Tubbs also was awarded the Academic Award. Airman Uhl won the Leadership Award and Airman Hough won the Levitow Award.

Hurricane Hunters fly first operation WC-130J mission: KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, Miss.

(AFPN) – The first storm of the 2005 hurricane season came a little early this year appearing in the Pacific off the coast of Central America. Hurricane Adrian also marked the beginning of a new era in weather reconnaissance for the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron's "Hurricane Hunters" here.

When thunderous winds threatening El Salvador formed Tropical Storm Adrian in the Pacific recently, the National Hurricane Center called on Air Force Reserve Command's hurricane hunters to get a fix on the storm.

NEWS AROUND THE AIR FORCE & PACAF

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Critically manned career fields given edge to fill NCO slots: WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Airmen in 17 Air Force specialties will be given a leg up for promotion this year in an attempt to fill manning shortfalls in their career fields.

Airmen testing for staff, technical or master sergeants during the 2005 promotion cycle, and who are in the 17 career fields, will be promoted at 1.2 times the Air Force average. For example, if the Air Force average for a particular promotion is 15 percent, then the critical skills would be promoted at a promotion rate of 18 percent.

Each year, the Department of Defense plays a huge role in delivering relief supplies and assisting in relief operations worldwide. For people overseas who want to contribute, the problem is getting the package where it needs to be.

However, the military postal service is not an option, said U.S. Air Forces in Europe postal officials. Sending charitable contributions through Air Mobility Command or through the MPS is prohibited.

Sending charitable donations via MPS prohibited: RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (AFPN) --

AD

Weather Airmen build bond with JASDF base

Annual summer events continue friendship, trust between Japanese, American military forecasters

By Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas
Editor

It wasn't just a picnic at Snyder Field Saturday afternoon.

The gathering was a bilateral event that has decades of friendship to back it up.

The 20th Operational Weather Squadron and Fuchu Air Base's Air Weather Group came together for the fifth annual summer celebration.

About 200 servicemembers, civilians, contractors and family members enjoyed sunny weather, sports activities and barbeque, said

Airman 1st Class Thomas Jenkins, 20th OWS regional weather forecaster and event official.

The 20th OWS and Fuchu's weather group share weather information via telephone daily but the bilateral event gave them the opportunity to get to know one another personally, said Capt. Hirokazo Hasebe, Japan Air Self-Defense Force liaison officer in the 20th OWS.

"There is a natural language barrier between us," said Captain Hasebe. "This event gives us a chance to get together face to face

and get to know one another. You can't do that over the phone."

Air Weather Group commander Col. Jun Komori said the event along with numerous other gatherings and meetings promote friendship between the two weather counterparts in the Kanto Plain.

"It is important to build trust in a relationship," the colonel explained. The JASDF weather group and Yokota's tenant weather squadron have been building trust for more than 35 years and through several realignments and other changes, said Colonel Komori.



photo by Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas

The 20th Operational Weather Squadron's noncommissioned officers do battle with Fuchu Air Base's Air Weather Group NCOs during a tug-of-war competition Saturday.

Lt. Col. Michael Farrer, 20th OWS commander, said he agreed with Colonel Komori that both the professional and personal events have been vital to

the organizations' relationship.

The counterparts take turns hosting annual events such as golf tournaments and formal gatherings, said Colonel Farrer.

Wing's Inspector General office named top in Air Force

By Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas
Editor

If you told the 374th Airlift Wing Inspector General Office they had an Air Force-level award-winning package on their hands for 2004, they probably wouldn't have given it a second thought.

"The award was never our goal," said Maj. Michael Mills, chief of the office's complaints and investigations section. "Our focus was squarely on resolving complaints

and returning people to their units satisfied.

"It was a big surprise," said the major. "We did a lot of proactive and creative things in 2004 to get out in front of people and help them understand how the IG works."

The office pushed for commercials on the local Armed Forces Network, and the initiative saw its way up to Department of Defense levels, said Major Mills.

The IG Airmen got their message out through briefing at commander calls and the First Term Airman's Center. Overall the of-

fice saw a drop from five investigations in 2003 to one in 2004. Complaints went down nearly 25 percent from 2003 to 2004, he said.

"We are educating people on the IG process," the major explained. "We tell them about what we do when we get complaints and how investigations work. Some people may not see us doing our job because we prefer to remain low-key when conducting an investigation. We investigate every single complaint equally but not every complaint goes to a full-fledged investigation."

Servicemembers are encouraged to work issues at the lowest level such as with supervisors and base agencies. If Airmen encounter problems or "red tape" with their chain of command or base agencies, the office can act as an intermediate to get issues resolved.

The major said he credits the Air Force award win to the office's teamwork and its close working relationship with the Pacific Air Forces' Inspector General office. Master Sgt. Edwin Holland also provided invaluable experience to the team, said the major.

AD

Memorial Day – A Gift of Tomorrow from our Past

COMPACAF shares thoughts on holiday

By General Paul V. Hester
Pacific Air Forces commander

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii – The sky is a deep blue over Punchbowl National Cemetery and the “trades” are the only sound as they flutter every American Flag. Just below on Waikiki, America’s “future” is playing loudly in

the surf. But this moment, on this day, is reserved for our “past” those who have secured our todays and tomorrows.

Memorial Day is a time to reflect remember ... and celebrate the lives of our Nation's warriors all services ... all ranks ... all specialties. There are over one million Americans who gave their lives and another 140,000 who were Prisoners of War. Their gift has strengthened the principles of our democracy ... has



proved hope to millions the world over ... has enriched every fellow citizen and allows us in this privileged Nation to rise each day with security assured and promise in our hands.

Our small task on this long weekend at the beginning of Summer and in particular this day-- 30 May -- is simply to honor their sacrifice. In the quietness of a moment, count your blessings and with a smile on your face, just say THANK YOU!

‘Take care of your Airmen’ – what does it mean?

By Lt. Col. Martin Granum
374th Civil Engineer Squadron

In my 24 years of Air Force experience, I believe there are five things that are fundamental to taking care of your Airmen.

These five things are unique to our Air Force culture and mission and are the foundation a good supervisor should build upon – they are the necessary essentials.

Timely and candid performance feedback. AFI 36-3401 Air Force Mentoring is an awesome quick overview of supervisory responsibilities in general, and performance feedback in particular. It’s a fast read at just 5 pages and it tells you where to go for more detailed guidance.

As a supervisor I used to agonize over an upcoming feedback session, and I’d prep for over an hour before each appointment– that approach works but can be difficult for a supervisor to sustain for everyone

that works for you. Now I simply print out a blank feedback form and schedule one hour for us to talk – the format of the performance feedback form itself provides the framework for a thorough feedback session. The important thing is to do it, providing the candid feedback at the right time.

Timely and accurate performance appraisals. Every member should expect to be asked for inputs on their performance appraisal. Of course the supervisor will write it, but members should make it easy by providing good inputs. Plan ahead, get started early and get them done on time.

Awards. Good supervisors groom award winners and nominate deserving personnel in for awards. It’s an aspect of our supervisory duties that is too often overlooked. Recognizing standout performers with quarterly and annual awards, functional awards, commander’s coins, certificates of appreciation,

and a host of other awards all build a record of performance that leads not only to mission accomplishment but promotion for deserving individuals. Many supervisors do not fully appreciate how the awards process empowers them to identify and reward their superstars, help get them promoted, and vector the right folks into more responsible positions.

Decorations. The most common error I’ve noticed on decorations is folks that extend or do an in-place consecutive overseas tour are too often forgotten for a decoration when one is deserved. Supervisors must be on the lookout for who has earned a decoration for meritorious service or achievement and ensure they are nominated appropriately. It is a supervisor’s duty.

Training. The Air Force does not hire master sergeants, shop chiefs, or commanders off the street – we grow them. How do

we grow them? Training, training, training.

At the outset of the Global War on Terrorism, I attended a panel discussion held by six former Vietnam Prisoners Of War. One of the questions put to the panel was: “Based upon your experience as a POW, what would you tell the young Airmen that are deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan?” The first answer given...and the one echoed by all panelists, was: “Pay attention to the training you receive. It will make the difference between life and death in combat for you, or your buddy next to you.”

There you have it: one commander’s opinion of what it means to “take care of you Airmen” – feedback, appraisals, awards, decorations, and training.

These five aspects of taking care of your Airmen are certainly not all inclusive, but they are the building blocks every Air Force supervisor should be actively working with their Airmen.

Chief's Corner

By Senior Master Sgt. Murray Connor
374th Comptroller Squadron

Have you been to a “going away” function lately?

If you have, the troop who was leaving was likely presented with a memento of their service that had a plate engraved with the dates they spent assigned to the unit. Between the “from” and “to” dates was a small dash that most folks don’t really see, but that little dash is very important, because it represents the time you spent assigned here at Yokota Air Base ... it’s your “Yokota dash.”

If you really think about it, that dash was the sum total of two or more years out of your life. The important thing isn’t how long your dash is, rather how much of a positive impact your dash made on the Yokota mission, community and people.

So how can you build a strong dash? Actually, a really great blueprint to use is our very own Air Force core values: Integrity First, Service Before Self and

Excellence In All We Do.

Using “Integrity First,” you cannot help but perform honorable service. Your word will be your bond. Supervisors, peers, and subordinates alike will respect you as a person who can be relied on, trusted to do the right thing ... the first time, every time. Integrity is a key ingredient to a building a solid dash that will leave a lasting impression.

By living a “Service before Self” life, you will seek out ways to positively contribute where your skills and abilities are needed. Being an effective “Wingman” is a great start. Your contributions may also include serving the community on the Wing Dormitory Council, as an active Air Force Sergeants Association member, or donating an evening every other month as a driver for the 225-RIDE program. Service before Self could also mean spending a couple of hours after work helping a struggling troop study for a CDC exam or work on their upgrade training. Remember, it’s all about “them,” not “you.” This core value can build a dash that will be

remembered by all who are touched by it.

By performing with the guideline “Excellence in All We Do,” you strengthen your dash with a reputation as someone who always gives 110 percent ... striving to produce a high quality output. I’m talking about someone who does the right thing the first time, regardless of the effort required. Excellence also means finding smarter ways to perform at a peak level, and eliminating unnecessary steps that bog down a process by wasting precious resources. Further, it means there are no sayings like “close enough for government work” in your vocabulary.

I know many of you are already forging your Yokota dash with our core values as your guide. You are the Airmen who must motivate the people around you though your words and deeds.

Remember, you only get one opportunity to go through this important period in your life, so make the best of it and leave a positive, lasting impression on the lives you touch.



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Deadlines

The deadline for articles, briefs and classifieds is Wednesday the week before publication. For holidays, the deadline is one day earlier.

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DUI Prevention

May 18 – May 24	0
Total DUIs in May	1
Total in 2005	5

Punishment

.049 or less = car parked for 12 hours
.05-.079 = 6 months walking
.081-.149 = 1 year walking
0.15 or greater = 2 years walking

*Don't
drink and drive.
Call 225-RIDE!*

The wing's 'first family' is moving up to new duties in Washington, D.C. after proving their mettle here as an ...

award-winning combination

By Airman 1st Class Katie Thomas
Editor

Sources have it that behind every good man stands a good woman.

Col. Mark Schissler, 374th Airlift Wing commander, says he has to agree.

His wife, Marcia, and himself have led the wing and its tenant units through two years of relief efforts, community relations events, inspections and exercises, and distinguished visitors.

The Air Force has taken notice of the Schisslers and Yokota's award-winning performance, earning the colonel and Mrs. Schissler the title of the service's most outstanding commander and spouse team for 2004.

The couple has been responsible for the welfare of 7,000 active duty members and 4,500 family members, providing them with leadership and care.

"I was honored to work with Colonel Schissler for the past 22 months," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Wicks, 36th Air Expeditionary Wing command chief at Andersen Air Base, Guam and former 374th Airlift Wing command chief.

"He and Marcia made a tremendous difference in the lives of the women and men at Yokota Air Base and the surrounding community," he said. "His passion for people was second only to being a principled man whose character guided him daily to make sound decisions that were grounded ethically and morally."

The colonel and Mrs. Schissler could be found at nearly every base function whether it was a promotion, retirement, award presentation or heritage month event. They are also frequent volunteers at the Department of Defense Dependents Schools here, reading to students and assisting with fundraising.

"Colonel Schissler really showed

compassion by taking time to be at every event he could even if it was just to stop in and say hello," said Tech. Sgt. Keith Fitzgerald, Band of the Pacific-Asia and president of the Yokota Striders and Vivace Performing Arts private organizations. "He is a really busy person being the wing commander but he always took time to show he cares about his people."

Sergeant Fitzgerald said the colonel is a regular volunteer with the Striders organization, helping them raise more than \$40,000 during the Frostbite race earlier this year to give back to the community as scholarships and donations.

"Yokota has a strong volunteer program here and we really saw that during the Frostbite when we had a record-breaking 600 base members come out to help," he said. "This kind of volunteerism comes down from the top and it is an effect of the type of person the wing commander is."

Together the couple has created a support system for deploying Airmen and their families that can be seen from the initial deployment briefings given at the Family Support Center to the welcome back celebrations at Bldg. 400 nearly every quarter.

The Schisslers' influence can be seen in the dozens of award-winning individuals and units that have been recognized from major command to top Air Force levels, including an "excellent" rating during the 2004 Pacific Air Forces Unit Compliance Inspection.

Their influence can also be felt off-base. The couple has welcomed multiple new friendship associations with local towns and cities around Yokota throughout their tenure. The base originally boasted only one close tie to a local city. They have also been invited to dozens of Japanese ceremonies and celebrations, supported a Yokota Taiko Team



photo by Dr. S. P. Holowenzak

Col. Mark Schissler, 374th Airlift Wing commander, and his wife Marcia enjoy Japanese Culture Day festivities April 29. The colonel and his wife were recently recognized as the best commander and spouse team in the Air Force for 2004.

and Tanabata Dance group, and held bilateral events with military Japanese wives.

"He has lead us through many tough times and showed many times over that we can overcome adversity," said Chief

Wicks. "He believed in people and cared deeply about doing what is best for the troops, and what is right. His ability to hone in on the important issues made such a difference for the base, the community, and the people."

AD

On base

Movies

Today – *Monster In Law*, PG-13, 7 p.m.; *Guess Who*, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday – *Miss Congeniality 2*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *Guess Who*, PG-13, 7 p.m.; *Monster In Law*, PG-13, 9:30 p.m. (adult-only showing)

Sunday – *Miss Congeniality 2*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *Guess Who*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Monday – *Monster In Law*, PG-13, 2 p.m.; *Guess Who*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Tuesday – *Monster In Law*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Wednesday – *Miss Congeniality 2*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Thursday – *Guess Who*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. Call 225-8708.

Change of command

The 374th Airlift Wing will hold a change of command ceremony June 1 beginning at 9 a.m. at Hangar 15. Busses will depart the Taiyo Recreation Center, Enlisted Club and Base theater at 8:15 and 8:30 a.m. for Hangar 15. All community members are welcome to attend.

Closure

The Samurai Self-Help Store will be closed today and Saturday for the Memorial Day weekend.

Traffic changes

The Supply Gate's outbound lane of traffic will be closed through June 5. All outbound traffic should use the Fussa or Terminal Gate during the closure.

Promotion ceremony

The Team Yokota base promotion ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday beginning at 9 a.m. Call 225-5171.

MTI briefing

Air Education and Training Command will have a Technical

Instructors briefing June 3 at the Family Support Center auditorium. Call 225-7829.

Safety campaign

The 374th Airlift Wing Safety Office and unit safety representatives are hosting a safety campaign by the Yokota Community Center today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Several demonstrations will be shown throughout the day.

A motorcycle safety awareness ride will be hosted at 9 a.m. at the base theater Saturday. The ride will go over the South Overrun and end at the top parking lot of the Yokota Community Center. Call 225-3162.

Wing events

The community is invited to 374th Airlift Wing commander Col. Mark Schissler's fini-flight Tuesday at Bldg. 703 at 11 a.m. The community is also invited to the Commander's Invitational Run will be held in the building's parking lot following the flight.

Publicity

Private organizations and base units can advertise their activities by sending an e-mail to afn.publicity@yokota.af.mil or yokota.bulletin@yokota.af.mil.

Arts and Crafts

The Yokota Arts and Crafts Center is offering a rubber-stamping class for children age 8 and older June 9 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 per child. Call 225-9044.

Parent meeting

The Parent Advisory Board is meeting Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the Officers' Club. The meeting is an open forum for concerns and questions from parents about Child Development Centers, in-home care and Camp Adventure. Call 225-7047.

Cleanup

Fussa City will host the Tama River cleanup Sunday from 9:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. Earth Day events

will follow at Tama Central Park. A bus will leave the Yokota High School parking lot at 9 a.m.

Pre-school openings

The Department of Defense Dependents Schools' Sure Star pre-school is offering free openings to the community. E-4s and E-5s are given priority in this program. Children must be four years old by Oct. 31. Call Yokota East Elementary School at 225-5504 or Yokota West Elementary School at 225-7611.

DRMO sale

DRMO Sagami will host a local sale June 9 beginning at 8 a.m. Furniture items such as chairs, sofas, tables, desks, dressers, wardrobes, lamps and mirrors will be offered. Call 268-4508.

Fourth of July parade

The Yokota Enlisted Spouses Club* is hosting a 2005 Fourth of July parade from 9 to 11 a.m. from the Traditional (West) Chapel to Wilkins Field. All squadrons, private organizations, groups and individuals may enter a float. The top three floats win prizes. E-mail chilichick1966@yahoo.com or michelesolomon@yahoo.com.

Dorm managers

The base housing office is looking for staff sergeants to fill upcoming dormitory manager positions. Call 225-8045.

Volunteers needed

Yokota West Elementary School needs volunteers for its annual field day June 3 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Call 225-7611.

Yokota East Elementary School is seeking volunteers to help prepare the school's interior and exterior to be painted. Volunteers are needed June 1 to 17. Call 225-5504.

Yokota East Elementary School needs volunteers to help with their Summerbration Celebration June 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 227-4026.

Volunteers are needed for the

Samurai Warrior



of the Week



Staff Sgt. Ricardo Santiago

Staff Sgt. Ricardo Santiago, 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, is this week's Samurai Warrior of the Week for exhibiting the qualities of unwavering initiative and persistence in all aspects of duty performance.

Sergeant Santiago is an electronic countermeasure craftsman by trade however through his quest for self improvement he volunteered for cross utilization training as a C-130 crew chief making him one of a few specialists to take on this demanding role. He consistently produces outstanding work in both his primary and CUT trained career field.

annual Yokota Striders* Ekiden relay race June 18 and 19. E-mail thomas.monohan@yokota.af.mil

Ball

The Prince Hall's* annual Black and White Ball will be hosted at the Enlisted Club June 11 beginning at 6 p.m. Attire is formal wear. Call 225-2092.

Gaming tournament

The Yokota Junior Enlisted Council* and Computer Users Group of Yokota* are hosting a console gaming tournament Saturday beginning at 4 p.m. at the Yujo Recreation Center. The cost is \$5 for early registration or \$10 at the door. Call 225-5500.

Chapel events

The Lampas Choir of South Korea is performing at the Taiyo Recreation Center June 5. They will also be making special appearances at the Traditional Chapel June 5 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The base chapel is hosting Vacation Bible School June 20 to 24 at the Traditional Chapel. This year's theme is "Serengeti Trek:

Where Kids Are Wild About God." Call 225-3253.

Chapel Schedule

Traditional (West) Chapel

Catholic: Reconciliation, Sundays at 8:45 a.m., 4:45 p.m. and by appointment. Mass, Sundays at 9:15 a.m., 5 p.m.; Mondays through Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.

Protestant: Traditional service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Liturgical service Sundays at 6:30 p.m.; Korean service, Sundays at 2 p.m.

Other faiths: Baha'i, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Contemporary (East) Chapel

Protestant: Gospel service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Contemporary service, Sundays at 5 p.m.

Other faiths: Seventh Day Adventist, second and fourth Saturdays of the month at 9 a.m.; Islam, Fridays at noon. Call 225-7009.

PO disclaimer

An asterisk (*) denotes a private organization. All POs and PO activities are not endorsed by or affiliated with the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force.

AD

“Quotes” & Things

*“I’m a rock star
because I couldn’t be
a soccer star.”*

Rod Stewart

Ekiden: The 21st Annual Yokota Striders* Ekiden Relay Race is scheduled for June 18 and 19 throughout the main base area near the Yokota High School. More than 250 volunteers are needed to support the event. Call 227-7934.

Baseball: The Yokota Thunder Baseball Club is recruiting players for the 2005 season. E-mail mohrvictor@yahoo.com.

Aerobics: The Natatorium hosts aerobics classes Mondays through Saturdays in the morning, afternoon and evenings. Contact 225-6133 for class details.

I Scream Social: The Sakana Outdoor Pool is opening its doors for the summer Saturday beginning at 11 a.m. Free ice cream and beverages will be offered. Call 225-6133.

Youth registration: Flag football and cheerleading registration begins June 1 at the East Youth Center. Call 225-7021.

Tournament: Route 56* is hosting a five-man softball tournament and homerun derby June 18 and 19 at Wilkins Field beginning at 8 a.m. The cost is \$50 per team and \$5 for the derby. Call 225-4034.

Boxing: Boxing lessons are available at the Taiyo Recreation Center Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 225-9655.

Sports coverage: Send upcoming sports events information to fuji.flyer@yokota.af.mil or call 225-8833.

CAJ takes DoDDS soccer tournament

YHS Panthers claim fourth in annual Japan-wide competition

By 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

In a tensely contested match that went to overtime, the Christian Academy in Japan beat Kadena Air Base Panthers’ boy’s soccer team 2-1 to win the DoDDS Far East High School Boy’s Soccer Tournament May 16 to 20.

Kadena started the game the aggressor and they nearly grabbed an early lead.

A push from behind in the penalty box in the first 10 minutes of the game gave Kadena a golden opportunity to open the scoring.

The Panthers’ were unable to convert the penalty kick as the kick was put high over the goal.

Kadena maintained the pressure throughout the first half but were victims of a hand ball called in their penalty box which gave CAJ a penalty kick in the 35th minute. Midfielder Soon Cho stepped up and put the ball in the back of the net to give CAJ a 1-0 lead.

The lead was short lived as

Kadena equalized in the 39th minute on a great individual effort by Nathan LaGrave, who posted up his defender and turned and let fly with a rocket from about 30 yards out that whizzed by the CAJ goalkeeper.

In the second half, both teams continually pushed the attack to try and put the game away. Kadena had several opportunities to take the lead, but their finishing deserted them.

The game finished at 1-1 in regulation and went into overtime.

After some nervous moments for both teams in the opening period of overtime, CAJ’s David Kajima scored in the ninth minute of over time to give the CAJ the lead. The goal proved to be the match winner as Kadena was unable to beat the CAJ goalkeeper.

“I’m really proud of our players,” said Sean Collier, CAJ head soccer coach. “These guys really stepped up in the second half and in overtime and I just couldn’t be any prouder of these guys.”



photo by 1st Lt. Ben Alumbaugh

Nathan LaGrave, number 17, from Kadena Air Base High School celebrates his game-tying goal with Anthony Soroka, number 10 and Aaron Zendejas, number 9, in the championship game against Christian Academy in Japan. The game rounded off a one-week boys’ soccer tournament held here. CAJ went on to win the game 2-1 in overtime.

Biking brings quicker travel, conveniences

By Cliff Franz
Yokota Health and Wellness Center

Bicycle commuting makes good sense – Bicycling is one of the best ways to improve overall fitness.

It can contribute to stress reduction, improved muscle tone, weight loss and can help create a more positive mental attitude.

There is no better way to wind down at the end of a stressful day – you’ll recharge your batteries for the next day.

Here are five good reasons to consider oiling up your old faithful and getting out:

Bikes are efficient.

For short trips on base, bicycles are actually quicker than your car. You may be surprised to find that, even riding slowly, you get to work earlier on a bike than you would

driving. Once at your duty section, bikes can be especially helpful for that quick trip to a meeting, the post office, or lunch at one of the base eateries. Almost everyone on Yokota makes the kind of short trips for which bikes are the ideal mode of travel.

Bikes are healthy.

If you’re riding four miles on three days each week, you’re doing enough to maintain minimum fitness levels. Studies show that bicycling can reduce the risks of heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. You can greatly reduce the possibilities of injury on a bike by taking a few precautions: obey the rules of the road -- your bike is like any other vehicle as far as traffic rules -- wear bright or reflective clothing at night, keep your bicycle in good working order and always wear a helmet.

Bikes are economical.

No gas, free parking, very little upkeep, how can you beat it? The cost of buying and maintaining a roadworthy bike is much less than a year’s worth of fuel, auto insurance or Japanese road taxes.

Bikes are environmentally-friendly.

What other vehicle emits no noxious fumes, uses up none of the earth’s non-renewable resources, creates no loud unpleasant noise and can get you from the west side with no waiting in line? Well, yes, a rickshaw. Cyclists also deserve to feel good about themselves, environmentally speaking.

Bikes are fun.

There’s nothing like the feeling of coasting down a gentle hill or ramp with a warm breeze on your face, watching the rest of the world from behind the handlebars of your bike.

AD